



POOL AND SPA INSTALLATION

Permits are required for all portable and built-in pool and spa installations.

Permit Issuance

Most portable (above ground) spa permits can be obtained on-line at www.e-OneStop.net. Permits for in-ground pools and spas can be obtained at the One-Stop Permit Center by providing three sets of the plans with the following information between the hours of 8:00 am – 12:00 noon:

- Site plan showing the existing house, proposed location of the pool/spa and all equipment, and setback distances from all property lines. The site plan must be reviewed and approved by PG&E before a permit can be issued. PG&E is located at 10900 N. Blaney Avenue, Cupertino, 95014 and they can be reached at (408) 625-2158.
- All proposed decks including height above ground
- All overhead utility lines and easements
- Electric wiring to pool or spa
- Structural details and calculations that are stamped and signed by the engineer (built-in pools/spas)
- UL listing with installation requirements (for spas)
- A fence is required to completely surround the pool or spa not less than 5 feet in height with all gates having a self-closing and self-latching device, with no openings in their horizontal dimension greater than four inches. (Sunnyvale Municipal Code Section 16.44.030.)

Depending on the type of pool or spa being installed, review and approval by the Planning Division may be required prior to issuance of a building permit. Contact a planner at the One-Stop Permit Center for more information.

Inspections Required

Portable, above ground spas require a rough electrical and a final inspection. For in-ground pools and spas, the first inspection is for the steel and the following inspections are based on how the in-group pool or spa is to be constructed. Consult with the Building Division for further specific information.

If you have any questions, please call the City of Sunnyvale Building Division at (408) 730-7444. Information is also available on the Building Division web site at: www.sunnyvalebuilding.com.

MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS FOR POOL AND SPA HEATING SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT

A. Certification by Manufacturers. Any pool or spa heating system or equipment may be installed only if the manufacturer has certified that the system or equipment has all of the following:

1. **Efficiency.** A thermal efficiency for gas-fired systems of at least 78 percent, when tested according to ANSI Standard Z21.56-1994; and
2. **On-off switch.** A readily accessible on-off switch, mounted on the outside of the heater that allows shutting off the heater without adjusting the thermostat setting; and
3. **Instructions.** A permanent, easily readable, and weatherproof plate or card that gives instruction for the energy efficient operation of the pool or spa and for the proper care of pool or spa water when a cover is used; and
4. **Electric resistance heating.** No electric resistance heating; and

EXCEPTION 1 to Section 114 (a) 4: Listed package units with fully insulated enclosures, and with tight-fitting covers that are insulated to at least R-6

EXCEPTION 2 to Section 114 (a) 4: Pools or spas deriving at least 60 percent of the annual heating energy from site solar energy or recovered energy.

5. **Pilot light.** No pilot light.

B. Installation. Any pool or spa heating system or equipment shall be installed with all of the following:

1. **Piping.** At least 36 inches of pipe between the filter and the heater to allow for the future addition of solar heating equipment; and
2. **Covers.** A cover for outdoor pools or outdoor spas; and

EXCEPTION to Section 114 (b) 2: Pools or spas deriving at least 60 percent of the annual heating energy from site solar energy or recovered energy.

3. **Directional inlets and time switches for pools.** If the system or equipment is for a pool:

- A. The pool shall have directional inlets that adequately mix the pool water; and
- B. The circulation pump shall have a time switch that allows the pump to be set to run in the off-peak electric demand period, and for the minimum time necessary to maintain the water in the condition required by applicable public health standards.

EXCEPTION to Section 114 (b) 3 B: Where applicable public health standards require on-peak operation.